last few years India has emerged to be an offensive player in this and, being an offensive player in this, APEDA and various Government agencies are providing assistance for setting up those facilities which are necessary to meet the requirements which we also believe are necessary, not only nationally, but also to meet the international norms.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, even at the cost of repeating, I would like to know what concern the Government has expressed to the UAE authorities over the manner and procedure governing the issuance of rapid alerts. We have heard in a lot of WTO meetings, and expressed our concern also, about the fact that this is creating immense problems. What is the impact of export of fruits and vegetables to these countries in view of these non-tariff barriers? What steps are being taken? And by what time do you think we will be able to achieve our exports of the same level?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, we are having growing exports in these sectors, as the hon Member has mentioned. It is undoubtedly true that it is right now one of our focuses that non-tariff barriers like the ones being mentioned are put there sometimes in the garb of packaging, sometimes in the garb of processes or procedures which we are not able to meet. With India's growing potential to export, whether it is our fruits or vegetables or flowers or whether it is some of our minor forest produce, we have taken this up as a high priority area now, because there is the possibility of a quantum jump in these sectors. We are in continuous discussions and negotiations. Of course, for settlement of other issues, we are putting this in the forefront so that these issues are settled along with any other issue.

Electricity shortage in the country

*44. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:†
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether facing coal and gas shortage, Government are now focusing on hydro electricity for generating sustainable power to tide over electricity shortage in the country;

(b) whether Power Ministry are facing coal and gas shortage for power plants;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya.

(c) whether Minister has said that hydel potential needed to be exploited for electrifying all villages households by 2012; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to see that all villages are electrified by 2012 and to what extent Government have been able to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government is according high priority for hydro electric development. This is a renewable and environmentally benign source of energy with inherent advantages like no fuel cost, providing valuable peak power to the system, stabilizing the grid frequency etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. As compared to the requirement, there is a shortage of coal and gas for a number of power stations in the country.

(c) The National Electricity Policy aims at providing access to electricity for all households in the next five years and availability of power on demand by 2012. To meet these objectives, the policy envisages development of all sources of conventional and non-conventional generation. The Government accords high priority for development of hydro electric power.

(d) To achieve the mission of providing power for all and to electrify all the households in the country, Government has taken a number of steps and measures.

As on 1.4.2005, out of 5,87,556 villages in the country, the number of un-electrified villages is estimated to be about 1,25,000. Out of a total of about 13.83 crore households, about 7.81 crore households do not have access to electricity (2001 census).

The Government launched a scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification in April, 2005 for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) objective of providing access to electricity to all rural households in the country in five years. The scheme is being implemented with Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) as the nodal agency.

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय, क्या कोयले की पर्याप्त पूर्ति के लिए सरकार के विचाराधीन कोई ऐसी पॉलिसी है, जिसके तहत् बिजली कंपनियों को कोयले की एलोकेशन का अधिकार ऊर्जा मंत्रालय को सौंपा जाए?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, she is asking about the transfer of the subject of coal to my Ministry. It is difficult for me to answer. About the shortage of coal in the power sector, I have already said in my reply that there is shortage as far as coal is concerned.

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: सभापति जी, मैंने पहले यह जो क्वेश्चन पूछा था, वह इसीलिए पूछा था क्योंकि कोयले की कमी है, लेकिन दोनों मंत्रालय अलग हैं । कोयला मंत्रालय अलग है और बिजली उत्पादन का काम अलग कंपनियां करती हैं । उनको समय से कोयला नहीं मिल रहा है, इसीलिए मैंने यह सवाल किया था कि क्या दोनों विभागों के लिए कोई ऐसी नीति बनाई है कि बिजली कंपनियों को समय से कोयला मिले और इसे कोयला मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत लाया जाए।

मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि पांच वर्षों के भीतर देश के सभी ग्रामीण आवासों में विद्युत पहुंचाने के लिए बनी ''राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना'' की सफलता के लिए बिजली की दर तय करने और बिजली वितरण की युक्तिसंगत नीति बनाने के लिए क्या सभी राज्यों के बीच कोई आम सहमति बन पाई है?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, the first part of her question is about how the Government is going to meet the shortage. I must share with the House that the generation of power during 2004-05 was to the tune of 5.2 per cent, which is a record production. Sir, we have also improved in the plant load factor. That is the reason why even the existing plants need more coal now. Because of the Prime Minister's timely intervention in this matter, the short-term project was to import coal to the tune of 14 million tonnes. Sir, the central public sector companies alone needed 3.9 million tonnes. So, that arrangement has already been built.

Sir, the second part of her question was about the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. It is true, Sir, for the first time a very comprehensive scheme has been evolved and launched in April, and it is going in full speed. Many States have already agreed to the Memorandum of Agreement and franchises have also agreed. For the first time, the youth is also associated with such kind of a scheme. In this way, the educated unemployed is also going to be associated with the implementation of this scheme.

श्री सभापति: डा. टी.सुब्बारामी रेड्डी। मैं सदन से यह जानकारी करना चाहूँगा कि ये हर क्वैश्चन के साथ होते हैं, मैं क्या करूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य: हो जाता है।

श्री सभापति: हो जाता है, तो मैं क्या करूँ?

एक माननीय सदस्य: इसके बारे में कुछ सोचा जाना चाहिए।

एक माननीय सदस्य: इन्हें रोक दिया जाए।

श्री सभापति: रोक दिया जाए!

एक माननीय सदस्य: इसका राज बताया जाए।

SHRI C.RAMACHANDRAIAH: What is the mechanism?

श्री सभापति: राज सबके सामने नहीं बता सकते।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सभापति जी, इस बात की जाँच की जाए कि एक सम्मानित सदस्य के साथ ही इतने प्रश्न कैसे आ जाते हैं। हम लोग बहुत मेहनत करते हैं, लेकिन ...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करूँगा कि वह रहस्य हम लोगों को भी बताया जाए, जिससे कभी-कभी हम लोगों का भी नम्बर आ सके।

श्री सभापति : आप इनके पास जाएँ।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: या तो ये कोई ऐसा रूद्राक्ष धारण करते हैं, जिसकी वजह से ऐसा हो रहा है, या इनके ऊपर बालाजी तिरुपति की कोई विशेष कृपा है...(व्यवधान)...

डा॰ अलादी पी॰ राजकुमार: इनके ऊपर बालाजी तिरूपति की कृपा है।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: या इनके पास कोई विशेष रहस्य है या कोई ऐसा जादू है।

श्री सभापति: यदि आपको विशेष रहस्य की जानकारी करनी है, तो इनकी क्लास में जाइए।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: मैं तैयार हूं, लेकिन ये उस क्लास का पता तो बताएं।

श्री सभापति: मैं पता बता दूंगा।

डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी: बालाजी तिरूपति की कृपा तो हम पर भी है।

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: इनके ऊपर आशीर्वाद है, इसलिए इनका नाम आता है।

श्री सभापति: इनको बोलने दीजिए।

डा॰ टी॰ सुब्बारामी रेड्डी: सर, इसका रहस्य है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप क्वैश्चन कीजिए। इसका रहस्य मत बताइए, नहीं तो आपका क्वैश्चन नहीं आएगा।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very happy that the hon. Minister in his reply stated that the National Electricity Policy aims at providing access to electricity for all households in the next five years and availability of power on demand by 2012. Sir, what I would like to know from the hon. Minister is, when there is a heavy shortage of gas and coal, whether setting up of the conventional power projects is going to achieve the objective. The hon. Minister in his reply has stated that setting up of hydro-electric power stations and non-conventional sources of energy would be very successful. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the concrete steps the Government is taking in this regard. How many hydro-electric power projects have been identified for generation of power? We have been hearing for years that hydro-power is coming and coming, but there is not much progresss in this regard. Although non-conventional energy sources is not the subject of the Power Minister, still he could coordinate with the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in order to meet power shortage through non-conventional energy sources.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, it is true that generation of hydro-electricity is now given more emphasis. We know its potential. The hydro-electricity harnessed is to the tune of 1,50,000 MW. We have identified 162 projects, and out of them, 77 projects have now started for DPR. It is in full swing. Fund is not going to be a constraint for generation of hydro-electricity in the country. If you put together the last two plans, the hydro-electric projects in the country produced more than 10,000 MW electricity. So, as far as the hydro-electric power generation is concerned we are right on track.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, the Minister has stated in his reply that the number of unelectrified villages as on 1.4.2005 was about 1,25,000. I have a copy of the Economic Survey here where this number has been put

at 1,12,401. The Economic Survey is an earlier document. Your reply is a later document. So, in the meanwhile, unless villages have been de-electrified, this number would not have gone up. So much for Government statistics. But the question is, according to the National Common Minimum Programme, you want to reach the target of electrifying all the villages in a five-year timeframe. One year has passed but the number of villages is 1,25,000. This will mean that you will have to electrify 30,000 villages or so every year.

What I would like to know from the hon. Minister is, do we have a plan of action in which this target has been broken down into annual targets and it has been further broken down into various States where there is an imbalance? For instance, my State of Jharkhand is in greater darkness than other States. And, do we have the plan for generation and distribution which is required to support this massive scheme?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, the discrepancy the hon. Member has mentioned is due to the new definition of electrification of a village.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: That new definition is mentioned and then the number is given in the document.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Earlier, a village is deemed to be electrified when a single connection is given. Later on, ten per cent of the population, public places and other places were added. That is how that discrepancy has crept in.

Secondly, as you have mentioned, our plan of about five years is to complete the electrification of 7.8 crore rural households. We have it in the plan; and as I mentioned, about 57,000 villages have been already identified under this scheme. MoUs are to be agreed, conditionalities are to be signed and franchises should also be agreed, upon. So, that process is going to be over by the 15th August and we are well placed as per the schedule of our plan. We hope that within five years, our targets will be definitely met.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Sir, comparatively, the north India is seated on the coal belt as also a large number of perennial rivers. That can give abundant hydel power to it. That being so, the previous Governments at the Centre diverted the entire natural gas which was produced by the

Bombay High to the northern India. I am also shocked to learn that the gas which was recently discovered in Krishna-Godavari basin is also sought to be diverted to U.P. and Maharashtra. Since the Southern States have a chronic power shortage, will the Minister take concrete steps that massive shore-based gas power project is set up at Kakinada so that the power requirements of the southern States are met?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, it is also true; as I have already confessed, the gas shortage is there in the country. In order to mitigate this problem, NTPC and GAIL are making all out efforts to tap sources not only from within the country but from all other sources to tie up so that this difficulty from the gas sector is reduced.

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवई: सभापति महोदय, इस सवाल के दो पहलू हैं, एक तो इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर, जो राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना के तहत आया है, वह इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की बात है और दूसरी जनरेशन की बात है। आपने कहा है कि मोर देन 7 करोड़ हाऊस होल्ड को, आप सबको विदइन फाइव ईयर बिजली प्रोवाइड करेंगे। मेरा कहना यह है कि जो जनरेशन की गति है, वह बहुत स्लो है। जहां तक मुझे ख्याल है, 4000 मेगावाट हर साल आपका कन्वेंशन, नोन-कन्वेंशन बिजली से पैदा होता है मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहती हूं कि जो इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की आपने बात की है, ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना के लिए जनरेशन की, क्या आप स्योर हैं कि पांच साल के अंदर आपकी जनरेशन इतनी हो जाएगी कि आप यह 7 करोड़ से ज्यादा हाऊस होल्ड को बिजली प्रोवाइड कर सकेंगे? दूसरा,मेरा कहना यह है कि जनरेशन की जो गति है जो प्लानिगं हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक या यह कोल और गैस की है, जिसकी शॉर्टेज है, तो उसको आप कैसे पूरा करने का प्लान कर रहे हैं ताकि दोनों साथ-साथ चलें? आपने यह भी कहा है कि वर्ष 2012 तक आप ओन-डिमांड इलेक्ट्रिसिटी देंगें, लेकिन उसके लिए जनरेशन होना बहुत जरूरी है। तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ, जैसा आपने प्लान अभी बताया कि कुछ शुरू कर रहे हैं, कुछ शुरू होने वाले हैं, लेकिन क्या आपको यकीन है कि पांच साल के अंदर आप इतनी पावर जनरेशन कर लेंगें कि आपका यह प्लान पूरा हो सके? आपकी यह बहुत अच्छी योजना है और हम सब चाहते हैं कि जल्दी से जल्दी यह योजना पूरी हो।

श्री पी. एम.सईद: माननीय सभापति जी, यह सही है कि इन्फ्रांस्ट्रक्चर के बारे में हम बहुत जोर दे रहे हैं। It is for the first time that we are starting with the weakest sector of distribution, that is, from distribution to the consumer. Now under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana we are strengthening the village

backbone, that is, 33/11 and 66/11 KV sub-station in each block, from there to the feeder line, to the village. electrification infrastructure of one transformer in each village. Here this is the weakest link of our power sector. we are giving the maximum strength there by linking the sub-transmission system. That is one aspect. Secondly she has already asked how we are going to meet the demand. Our demand in the Tenth Plan is 41,110 MW. That is the target that we have . For the first time we are going to achieve it. We are going with it. In the Eleventh Plan, which comes up to 2012, we are meeting—advance planning is already done -- 66,000 MW. By this direct approach to the State Electricity Boards, States and all stakeholders we are planning to see the regular flow of light and like the urban areas the rular areas should also get quality electricity at affordable price. There will not be any problem.

अयोध्या में आतंकवादी हमला

†*45. **श्रीमती सविता शारदा:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में आतंकवादियों ने अयोध्या में राम जन्म भूमि पर हमला किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस आतंकवादी हमले में कितने व्यक्ति मारे गए और घायल हुए;

(घ) क्या किसी ने इस हमले की जिम्मेदारी ली थी;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(च) क्या इस प्रकार की घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने के लिए सरकार का कठोर कदम उठाने का विचार है; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्यों है?

गृहमंत्री (श्री शिवराज वी॰ पाटिल): (क) से (छ) एक विवरण सदन के पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

(क) से (ङ) 5.7.2005 को लगभग 09.15 बजे 5 आतंकवादी मार्शल जीप में अयोध्या स्थित राम जन्मभूमि-बाबरी मस्जिद परिसर में अधिग्रहत क्षेत्र के अवरोधकों के निकट आए। जीप से उतरने के पश्चात, उन्होंने जीप को विस्फोट से उड़ा दिया और इस तरह उन्होंने

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.